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HISTORICAL NOTICE.

THE preliminary meeting which led to the formation of the ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON was held in the Regents' Room of the Smithsonian Institution on Monday evening, February 10, 1879, in response to the following call through the public press:

“WASHINGTON, *February 7, 1879.*

“Many persons interested in American Archæology have expressed a desire for an organization in this city to promote study and diffuse knowledge upon the subject. All willing to join an Archæological Association are requested to attend a meeting at the Smithsonian Institution on Monday evening, 10th instant, at $7\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock, for a conference upon the subject, and the formation of such a society.

“J. M. TONER, M. D.,
“OTIS T. MASON, Columbian College,
“GARRICK MALLERY, U. S. Army.”

The following gentlemen responded to this call by attending the preliminary meeting:

Dr. A. Wellington Adams, Mr. S. Yorke At Lee, Prof. S. F. Baird, Mr. Otis Bigelow, Mr. George H. Boehmer, Mr. E. A. Burdick, Mr. Frank H. Cushing, Dr. Wills DeHass, Dr. Robert Fletcher, Mr. G. Brown Goode, Mr. John C. Lang, Col. Garrick Mallory, Prof. Otis T. Mason, Dr. James E. Morgan, Mr. P. W. Norris, Lieut. W. W. Reisinger, Dr. Elmer R. Reynolds, Mr. William J. Rhees, Dr. Miles Rock, Mr. Lenox W. Simpson, Dr. J. E. Snodgrass, Dr. J. M. Toner, Mr. Edwin P. Upham, Mr. Lester F. Ward, and Mr. Joseph M. Wilson.

At that meeting the propriety of such an organization was discussed, as well as the question as to the most appropriate name by which it should be known, and a committee consisting of Dr. J. M.

Toner, Prof. Otis T. Mason, Col. Garrick Mallery, and Dr. Wills DeHass, was appointed to draft a constitution.

The meeting adjourned to reassemble in the same room one week later and consider the report of the committee.

A second preliminary meeting was accordingly held on Monday evening, February 17, and the committee reported a constitution which, after discussion and slight modification, was adopted.

The following is the constitution adopted at that meeting :

ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—*Name.*

The name of this Society shall be “THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.”

ARTICLE II.—*Object.*

The object of this Society shall be to encourage the study of the Natural History of Man, especially with reference to America, and shall include Archæology, Somatology, Ethnology, and Philology.

ARTICLE III.—*Members.*

The members of this Society shall be persons who are interested in Anthropology, and shall be divided into three classes : Active, Corresponding, and Honorary. The active members shall be those who reside in Washington, or in its vicinity, and who shall pay the dues required by Article XV ; corresponding members shall be those who are engaged in anthropological investigations in other localities ; honorary members shall be those who have contributed by authorship or patronage to the advancement of Anthropology. Corresponding or honorary members may become active members by paying the fee required by Article XV.

All members shall be elected by ballot, as follows : The name of the candidate shall be recommended to the council, in writing, by two members. If a majority of the Council favor the election, the name shall be presented to the Society, and a vote of a majority of the active members present at a regular meeting shall be necessary to an election.

No person shall be entitled to the privileges of active membership before signing the constitution.

ARTICLE IV.—*Officers.*

The officers of this Society shall be a President, four Vice-Presidents, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Curator, all of whom, together with six other active members, shall constitute a council, all to be elected by ballot at each annual meeting. The officers shall serve one year, or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE V.—*The Council.*

No business shall be transacted by the Society, and no communication received or published in the name of the Society, that has not first been referred to the Council, five members of which shall constitute a quorum.

They shall act on all nominations for membership, shall have direction of the finances, audit the accounts of the Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Curator, and provide a proper programme for regular and special meetings. They shall meet one hour before the regular sessions of the Society, and at such other times as they may be called together by the President. They may call special meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.—*The Sections.*

For active operations the Society shall be divided into four sections, as follows: Section A, Archæology; Section B, Somatology; Section C, Ethnology; Section D, Philology. The Vice Presidents of the Society shall be *ex officio* chairmen of these sections respectively, and shall be designated by the President to their sections after their election. It shall be the duty of these sections to keep the Society informed upon the progress of research in their respective fields, to make special investigations when requested by the Council, to announce interesting discoveries, to collect specimens, manuscripts, publications, newspaper clippings, etc., and in every way to foster their divisions of the work.

All papers presented to the sections shall be referred to the Council, and through it to the Society.

ARTICLE VII.—*The President.*

The President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice Presidents, shall preside over the meetings of the Society and of the Council, and shall appoint all committees in the Council and in the Society.

ARTICLE VIII.—*The Vice Presidents.*

The Vice Presidents shall respectively preside over the sections to which they have been designated, and represent such section in the Council and in the Society.

All papers from a section shall be referred to the Council through its vice-president.

ARTICLE IX.—*The Corresponding Secretary.*

It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to receive and answer all letters of the Society, to give due notice of all meetings, regular and special, to receive all donations to the Society other than money, acknowledge the receipt thereof, and deliver them to the Curator.

ARTICLE X.—*The Recording Secretary.*

The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of the regular and special meetings of the Society, and of the Council, shall keep a list of active, corresponding, and honorary members, with their residences, and shall inspect and count all ballots.

ARTICLE XI.—*Duties of the Treasurer.*

The Treasurer shall receive and have charge of all moneys; he shall deposit the funds as directed by the Council, and shall not expend any money except as ordered by the Council. He shall notify members in writing when their dues have remained unpaid for six months.

ARTICLE XII.—*The Curator.*

The Curator shall have charge of all books, pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and other anthropological material not deposited in accordance with Article XVI, in the National Museum, or the Army Medical Museum; he shall keep a record of them in a book provided by the Society; he shall keep a card subject-index of anthropological facts, to which the members are all expected to contribute.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Meetings.*

The regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the first and the third Tuesday of each month from October to June, inclusive. An annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held on the third Tuesday of January in each year, at which only active members who are not in arrears for fees shall be entitled to vote. The business of the Society shall be conducted in accordance with the established rules of parliamentary practice. Papers shall be limited to twenty minutes, after which the subject shall be thrown open for discussion, remarks thereon to be limited to five minutes for each speaker. At the first meeting in February the retiring president shall deliver an address upon the work of the Society during the preceding year. Ten active members present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Visitors.*

Members may invite strangers interested in Anthropology to attend any meeting except the annual election; but a resident of the District of Columbia shall not be invited more than once during a year, except with the consent of the Council.

ARTICLE XV.—*Fees.*

Each member, on joining, shall pay the sum of two dollars, and two dollars for each year thereafter, commencing with the first of January ensuing. The names of members failing to pay their fees one month after written notice from the Treasurer, as provided in Article XI, shall be dropped from the roll.

ARTICLE XVI.—*Donations.*

It shall be the duty of all members to seek to increase and perfect the materials of anthropological study in the national collections at Washington. All donations of specimens, books, pamphlets, maps, photographs, and newspaper clippings, shall be received by the Corresponding Secretary and delivered to the Curator, who shall exhibit them before the Society at the next regular meeting after their reception, and shall make such abstract or entry concerning them, in a book provided by the Society, as will secure their value as materials of research; after which all archæological and ethnological materials shall be deposited in the National

Museum, in the name of the donor and of the Society; all crania and somatic specimens, in the Army Medical Museum; all books, pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and abstracts, in the archives of the Society.

ARTICLE XVII.—*Amendments.*

This constitution shall not be amended except by a three-fourths vote of the active members present at the annual meeting for the election of officers, and after notice of the proposed change shall have been given in writing at a regular meeting of the Society, at least one month previously.

ARTICLE XVIII.—*Order of Business.*

The order of business at each regular meeting shall be:

1. Reading the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Report of the Council upon membership.
3. Report of the Corresponding Secretary.
4. Report of the Curator.
5. Reading of papers and discussions.
6. Notes and queries.

The third meeting was held February 24, 1879, at which the officers of the Society for the ensuing year were elected. The following were the officers chosen:

FIRST OFFICERS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| PRESIDENT | J. W. POWELL. |
| VICE PRESIDENTS | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="flex: 1;">J. M. TONER.</div> <div style="flex: 1;">GEORGE A. OTIS.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="flex: 1;">GARRICK MALLERY.</div> <div style="flex: 1;">WILLS DEHASSE.</div> </div> |
| CORRESPONDING SECRETARY | OTIS T. MASON. |
| RECORDING SECRETARY | ELMER R. REYNOLDS. |
| TREASURER | JOHN C. LANG. |
| CURATOR | FRANK H. CUSHING. |
| COUNCIL AT LARGE | <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="flex: 1;">ALBERT S. GATSCHE.</div> <div style="flex: 1;">W. W. REISINGER.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="flex: 1;">G. K. GILBERT.</div> <div style="flex: 1;">CHARLES A. WHITE.</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="flex: 1;">THOMAS ANTISELL.</div> <div style="flex: 1;">J. M. WILSON.</div> </div> |

The first Regular Meeting of the Society was held, pursuant to the above constitution, on Tuesday evening, March 4, 1879, and bi-weekly meetings have since taken place regularly, as provided for in Article XIII.

The Regents' Room of the Smithsonian Institution, through the courtesy of Prof. Spencer F. Baird, Secretary of the Institution, was occupied as the place of meeting until January 18, 1881, when the offer of the Faculty of the National Medical College, of the use for this purpose of the lower Lecture Hall of the College was formally considered and accepted, at which place the Society has since met.

During the first three years of the Society, viz., from March 4, 1879, to January 3, 1882, sixty-eight papers were read and three presidential addresses delivered. The number of papers presented in the year 1879-'80, was twenty-seven, the number in the year 1880-'81, was nineteen, and the number in the year 1881-'82, was twenty-two.

Abstracts of most of the papers have been furnished and many of them have been published entire in different ways. The papers read during the first two years were collected together by the President at the end of the second year, and abstracts of them published by him as data for his annual address for that year in compliance with a clause in Article XIII of the Constitution. These abstracts, chronologically arranged, together with the presidential address of the previous year, and that for the second year, with an index, were published by the President under the following title: "Abstract of Transactions of the Anthropological Society of Washington, D. C., with the Annual Address of the President, for the First Year ending January 20, 1880, and for the Second Year ending January 18, 1881. Prepared by J. W. Powell. Washington, 1881."

The whole forms a pamphlet of 150 pages, and constitutes a valuable record of the Society during its first two years. The expenses of this publication were, by a vote of the Society and Council, divided equally between the Society and the President.

The abstracts and addresses published in this work will not be republished in the present volume, but reference will be made in each case to the page on which they occur.

At the annual meeting held January 17, 1882, several amendments to the Constitution, proposed by a committee appointed for the purpose, were considered by the Society and adopted. The following is the present Constitution as amended at that meeting :

AMENDED CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I.—*Name.*

The name of this Society shall be “THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON.”

ARTICLE II.—*Object.*

The object of this Society shall be to encourage the study of the Natural History of Man, especially with reference to America, and shall include Somatology, Sociology, Philology, Philosophy, Psychology, and Technology.

ARTICLE III.—*Members.*

The members of this Society shall be persons who are interested in Anthropology, and shall be divided into three classes: Active, Corresponding, and Honorary. The active members shall be those who reside in Washington, or in its vicinity, and who shall pay the dues required by Article XV. Failure to comply with this provision within two months after notice of election, unless satisfactorily explained to the Council, shall render the election void. Corresponding members shall be those who are engaged in anthropological investigations in other localities; honorary members shall be those who have contributed by authorship or patronage to the advancement of Anthropology. Corresponding or honorary members may become active members by paying the fee required by Article XV.

All members shall be elected by the Council and by ballot, as follows: The name of the candidate shall be recommended to the Council, in writing, by two members of the Society, and eight affirmative ballots shall be necessary to an election.

No person shall be entitled to the privileges of active membership before paying the admission fee provided in Article XV.

ARTICLE IV.—*Officers.*

The officers of this Society shall be a President, four Vice Presidents, a General Secretary, a Secretary to the Council, a Treasurer, and a Curator, all of whom, together with six other active members, shall constitute a Council, all to be elected by ballot at each annual

meeting. The officers shall serve one year, or until their successors are elected.

ARTICLE V.—*The Council.*

All business of the Society, except the election of officers at the annual meeting, shall be transacted by the Council, five members of which shall constitute a quorum.

The Council shall meet one half-hour before the regular sessions of the Society, and at such other times as they may be called together by the President. They may call special meetings of the Society.

ARTICLE VI.—*The Sections.*

For active operations the Society shall be divided into four sections, as follows: Section A, Somatology; Section B, Sociology; Section C, Philology, Philosophy, and Psychology; Section D, Technology. The Vice-Presidents of the Society shall be *ex officio* chairmen of these sections respectively, and shall be designated by the President to their sections after their election. It shall be the duty of these sections to keep the Society informed upon the progress of research in their respective fields, to make special investigations when requested by the Council, to announce interesting discoveries, to collect specimens, manuscripts, publications, newspaper clippings, etc., and in every way to foster their divisions of the work.

All papers presented to the sections shall be referred to the Council, and through it to the Society.

ARTICLE VII.—*The President.*

The President, or, in his absence, one of the Vice-Presidents, shall preside over the meetings of the Society and of the Council, and shall appoint all committees in the Council and in the Society. At the first meeting in February the retiring President shall deliver an address to the Society.

ARTICLE VIII.—*The Vice-Presidents.*

The Vice-Presidents shall respectively preside over the sections to which they have been designated, and represent such sections in the Council and in the Society.

Each of the Vice-Presidents shall deliver an address during the year upon such subject within his department as he may select.

ARTICLE IX.—*The General Secretary.*

It shall be the duty of the General Secretary to record the transactions and conduct the general correspondence of the Society.

ARTICLE X.—*The Secretary to the Council.*

The Secretary to the Council shall keep the minutes of the Council, shall keep a list of active, corresponding, and honorary members, with their residences, shall notify members of the time and place of all meetings of the Society, and shall perform such other duties as the Council may direct.

ARTICLE XI.—*The Treasurer.*

The Treasurer shall receive and have charge of all moneys ; he shall deposit the funds as directed by the Council, and shall not expend any money except as ordered by the Council. He shall notify members in writing when their dues have remained unpaid for six months.

ARTICLE XII.—*The Curator.*

The Curator shall receive, acknowledge, and have charge of all books, pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and other anthropological material, and shall dispose of them in accordance with Article XVI, keeping a record of them in a book provided by the Society.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Meetings.*

The regular meetings of the Society shall be held on the first and the third Tuesday of each month from November to May, inclusive. An annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held on the third Tuesday of January in each year, a quorum to consist of twenty active members who are not in arrears for dues ; and visitors shall not be admitted. The proceedings of the Society shall be conducted in accordance with the established rules of parliamentary practice. Papers read shall be limited to twenty minutes, after which the subject shall be thrown open for discussion, remarks thereon to be limited to five minutes for each speaker.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Publications.*

The address of the President, provided in Article VII, and the transactions of the Society, shall be printed and published annually, or at such periods and in such form as may be determined by the Council.

ARTICLE XV.—*Fees and Dues.*

The admission fee to be paid by members elect shall be five dollars, and the annual dues, to be paid on the first of January, shall be three dollars. The names of members failing to pay their dues one month after written notice from the Treasurer, as provided in Article XI, shall be dropped from the roll, unless from absence of the member from Washington or other satisfactory explanation, the Council shall otherwise determine.

ARTICLE XVI.—*Gifts.*

It shall be the duty of all members to seek to increase and perfect the materials of anthropological study in the national collections at Washington. All gifts of specimens, books, pamphlets, maps, photographs, and newspaper clippings, shall be received by the Curator, who shall exhibit them before the Society at the next regular meeting after their reception, and shall make such abstract or entry concerning them in a book provided by the Society, as will secure their value as materials of research; after which all archæological and ethnological materials shall be deposited in the National Museum, in the name of the donor and of the Society; all crania and somatic specimens, in the Army Medical Museum; all books, pamphlets, photographs, clippings, and abstracts, in the archives of the Society.

ARTICLE XVII.—*Amendments.*

This constitution shall not be amended except by a three-fourths vote of the active members present at the annual meeting for the election of officers, and after notice of the proposed change shall have been given in writing at a regular meeting of the Society, at least one month previously.

ARTICLE XVIII.—*Order of Business.*

The order of business at each regular meeting shall be:

1. Reading the minutes of the last meeting.
2. Report of the Council upon membership.
3. Report of the Curator.
4. Reading of papers and discussions.
5. Notes and queries.